

DRAFT

2005 REVISED COMMUNITY PLAN EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

Chapter 15.2 of the Code of Virginia requires that the local Planning Commission review the Comprehensive (Community) Plan every five years and determine whether it should be amended. In accordance with that requirement, the Board of Supervisors has approved and adopted a set of revisions to the 1998 Community Plan. Five sections of the 1998 Plan have been revised or added: Economic Development Plan, Growth Management and Capital Facilities Planning, Stormwater Management, Transportation and Public Utilities. In addition, the Implementation Strategies have been updated and the Land Use Map has been revised. All other sections of the 1998 Community Plan remain unchanged.

Summary of Information

Economic Development - This revised chapter reemphasizes the mission of the Economic Development department which is "To attract and retain to the County quality jobs and investment that diversify the economy, broaden the tax base, and provide long-term employment opportunities for area residents." The Department will do this by strengthening existing business retention efforts, by identifying commercial and industrial sites and adding them to our product inventory, by identifying public-private partnerships that enhance economic development in the County and by recognizing the inherent conflicts between commercial/industrial development and nearby residential development and regulating the appearance of new commercial and industrial development.

Growth Management and Capital Facilities Planning - This chapter emphasizes the desire to direct development into designated areas that have or will have the capacity to accommodate future growth. The intent of this goal is to facilitate efficient public service delivery in those areas while preserving rural resources in the outlying areas of Roanoke County. The chapter outlines primary growth areas and future growth areas and addresses those areas of the County where growth should be discouraged.

Stormwater Management - This chapter emphasizes the following objectives: to minimize the impact of drainage on private property, to alleviate existing stormwater problems, to manage stormwater discharge, to protect water quality and to research potential stormwater management financing methods.

Public Utilities - This chapter discusses public water and public sewer issues and describes the responsibilities of the new Western Virginia Water Authority.

Transportation – This chapter states that comprehensive and forward-looking solutions are needed to address growing populations and increasing numbers of commuters and vehicle miles traveled. The stated goals of this chapter are to: consider present and future transportation implications when making land use decisions, to make efficient use of Roanoke County's taxpayer money allocated for transportation projects, to guide the use of the Roanoke County transportation infrastructure system to control air pollution, traffic and livability problems, to play an influential role in shaping and implementing regional transportation decisions, to provide progressive and forward looking solutions and technology to users of Roanoke County's transportation network, and to expand and emphasize citizen participation and comments during the early stages of transportation planning.